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3PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Norio TANAKA et al.

Application No.: 10/586,854

Filed: July 20, 2006

Docket No.: 128794

For: OPTICALLY CONTROLLED OPTICAL-PATH-SWITCHING-TYPE DATA  
DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS AND DISTRIBUTION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See References 1 - 3.
- ☒ 3. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 1 and 3.

- ☒ 4. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 2.

Respectfully submitted,



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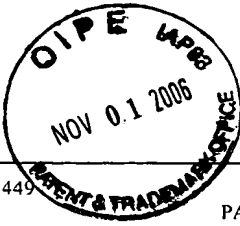
JAO:RBI/kam

Date: November 1, 2006

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128794APPLICATION NO.  
10/586,854

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)  
Norio TANAKA et al.FILING DATE  
July 20, 2006

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation
	1	JP A 63-243298	10/11/1988	JAPAN	X	
	2	JP B2 2599569	01/09/1997	JAPAN		X
	3	JP A 04-099609	03/31/1992	JAPAN	X	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: November 1, 2006